

**MINUTES
INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTER PERSONNEL
STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

**AUGUST 20, 2007 6 PM
GREENCASTLE CITY HALL
1 N LOCUST ST.
GREENCASTLE IN**

A. BOARD CALLED TO ORDER

At 6 PM

B. ROLL CALL

Present

Darrick Scott
Jerry Nulliner
Charles (Don) Hall
Thomas Hanify (6:10pm)
Jack Kerney Sr.
Joe Wainscott Jr.
Gerald George
Candice Ashby
Ab Crosby
Jeff Hayes

Absent

Roger Johnson

At this time Bill Newgent, Fire Chief of Greencastle was introduced and thanked the board for meeting in Greencastle. Mr. Newgent then introduced the Mayor of Greencastle, Nancy Michaels. Mayor Michaels thanked the board and spoke about her learning experience about the fire service.

**C. MINUTES AND STATISTICAL REPORT FROM
JULY 2007.**

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve. Don Hall seconded. Motion passed.

D. VARIANCES

1. Brian Kazmierzak requested a variance for Wilderness Rescue Awareness based on enclosed documentation.

Staff has no recommendation.

Gerald George made a motion to approve. Jerry Nulliner seconded. Motion passed.

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| 2. Nick Alford | 3. Michael Boone |
| 4. Kyle Brooks | 5. Sean Campbell |
| 6. Joe Green | 7. Logan Kerr |
| 8. Ronald Neibel Jr | 9. Derek Norcross |
| 10. William Roudebush | 11. Dale Saucier |
| 12. Jason Smith | 13. Lisa White |
| 14. Craig Zollars | |

requested variances for Vehicle Machinery Rescue Awareness and Operations.

Staff has no recommendation.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve all except Craig Zollars. Gerald George seconded. Craig Zollars needs hazmat operations certification. Motion passed.

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| 15. Joey Danaher | 16. Rodney Brewer |
| 17. Michael Blann | 18. Steven Butrum |
| 19. Michael Hieatt | |

requested variances for Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician. Rope Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician. Trench Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician, and Vehicle/Machinery Awareness, Operations and Technician, based on training documentation enclosed. This was tabled at the June meeting due to lack of training documentation.

Staff has no recommendation.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve. Ab Crosby seconded. Motion passed.

20. Ryan Altman requested a variance for Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician. All prerequisites have been met. He completed the course through Progressive Rescue Solutions Inc. The course material has been submitted previously to the board.

Staff has no recommendation.

Tom Hanify made a motion to amend the request to read Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician. Gerald George seconded. Motion passed. Jerry Nulliner made a motion to table for further information. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

21. Frank Owens requested a variance for Instructor I. He is a currently an ILEA instructor and he is a Fire Chief with the Benton Twp Fire Dept.

Staff has no recommendation.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion based on past practice to approve the request. Joe Wainscott seconded. Motion passed. If he wishes IFSAC certification, he would have to take the written and practical testing.

22. Ryan Miller requested variances for Wilderness Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician, based on enclosed documentation, and Rescue Tech, Surface Water Tech based on training through Dive Rescue International.

Staff has no recommendation.

Gerald George stated that there is no information to support Wilderness Rescue Technician. Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve Gerald George seconded. Jerry Nulliner amended his motion to approve Wilderness Awareness, Operations and Technician, and deny Rescue Tech, Surface Water Rescue based on lack of sufficient documentation showing he met the standard. Gerald George seconded. Motion was approved. Joe Wainscott made a motion to approve Wilderness rescue Awareness and Operations. Gerald George seconded. Motion passed.

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| 23. | David DeLor | 24. | Joseph Ferrantella |
| 25. | Aaron Wirtz | 26. | Mark Reed |
| 27. | Kevin Pederson | 28. | Doug Olsen |
| 29. | Ryan Cusack | 30. | Terry Ciclora |
| 31. | Todd Corey | 32. | Mark Schweitzer |

requested variances for Confined Space Awareness, Rope Rescue Awareness, Structural Rescue Awareness, Swift Water Rescue Awareness, Trench Rescue Awareness, Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness, and Wilderness Rescue Awareness; based on the training information enclosed.

These were tabled at the July meeting due to lack of continued education training hours.

Staff has no recommendation.

Gerald George made a motion to approve. Joe Wainscott seconded. Motion passed.

E. RECIPROCITY REQUESTS

1. Michael Compton requested reciprocity for Juvenile Fire-Setter. He holds a certification from Ohio and documentation is enclosed.

Staff has no recommendation.

Gerald George made a motion to deny due to age of certifications and lack of continued education. Jerry Nulliner seconded. Motion passed.

F. STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT- ROGER JOHNSON

No report at this time.

G. HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING DIVISION REPORT; DIRECTOR JOSEPH WAINSCOTT JR.

I would like to share with you some of the challenges the Certification Section has been facing. First, due to a problem with our supplier, we were unable to maintain our supply of fire answer sheets and had to use a substitute EMS form. Unfortunately, the types of bubble sheets are different which resulted in our staff having to hand grade the fire tests. You can see by the number of certifications issued, (1197) they had a significant number of tests to deal with. . In the middle of this, the hard drive in our LXR testing system crashed causing us to lose some statistical information, but requiring significant work to restore the test banks from back ups. We are hand grading tests and restoring the testing information. I am very proud of the efforts of the Certification Section, in

that, through this time they have still kept up with the work load to keep the turn around time at the normal levels. We have had the review teams look at the hazmat ops test and mandatory test again as a result of feedback we have received from the field on the Customer Service Surveys. The new tests are due out this week and will go into the testing process right away. The Hazmat Ops is not an easy test. Everyone is going to have to do their part in teaching the material and studying the information to be successful. We had about 160 Customer Satisfaction Survey forms returned to us in July, and only 8 had issues noted. Only 4 of those reflected what Tony and certifications had control over. The state wide fire training councils are all in place and working. Districts 3, 7, 10 and 6 are going strong, Districts 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, and 9 are moving along as well. District 7 has received over \$87 thousand dollars of state funded support for training materials and props. If you are not involved in the activities of your District Fire Training Committees, you need to be, reach out and get involved.

H. CERTIFICATION SECTION CHIEF, TONY PAGANO

1. Christopher See.

Chris See proctored an examination and there was a student under 18 years old. Mr. See refused to allow the student to take the written test after he took the practical skills portion. Mr. See wanted the student to sign a statement explaining that he could not participate in fire responding until he was certified at the age of 18. Mr. See has since agreed to let the student test.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS- JUDGE TEEGARDEN

No report at this time.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. Manuela Johnson of the Motorsports task force would like to address the board.

In 1994 the state of Indiana was the only state in the nation that certified firefighters for Motorsports. The state of Illinois has taken our program and are using it for their firefighters.

There have been no major changes to this rule until 2003. We then came to the board and asked permission to continue with this program. We have adjusted our program to meet the NFPA 610. This standard has been developed in 3 levels, awareness, operations and technician. The awareness level is for everyone working in this field. Not just firefighters, but anyone on the field. We have developed the test bank by combining several test bank questions to cover everything that needs to be covered. The taskforce is asking to make adjustments to the rule. Right now it is called Master Motorsports and we would like to get this corrected.

We would like to restrict the Instructor of this class. Just because you are certified in this field, does not mean you can teach it. We would like there to be an approved pool of instructors that can teach this. This is 2 ½ days of material to teach and hands on material. There would be expiration on this. Things change daily in this field, and you need to be current on what is being used out there.

The test is ready. As soon as the minor adjustments to the rule are complete, we will be ready to go. We are asking for two things.

- 1) Rule verbiage change
- 2) An instructor pool created for this certification.

Tom Hanify has concerns about the instructor pool. We need to watch the legality of restricting who can teach on this certification. If we do this for this certification, then we would have to do it for all specialty certification. The board has asked for Manuela to come back in October for further discussion.

2. Rule changes.

There was no discussion on the rules at this time. The discussion will be at the October meeting in Columbus. Any rule change need to be given to Mara or Joe Wainscott for review. Jerry Nulliner stated that for all of the individuals looking for books on Strategy and Tactics, Brady now has a new book and Instructor's CD for training. They have the objectives, there is a test with it, and it looks to be a pretty good book.

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Gerald George would like to discuss Rescue Awareness levels testing.

We are teaching all of the Rescue Awareness levels in one course now. We have included in this, all of the disciplines. We have created a 110 question test to cover all awareness modules. What we are asking is that if they request variances for these disciplines, they grant the request based on this course and testing. We will be teaching this course all over the

state and I would like to be able to tell them that they can get certification on this course.

The discussion was that past practice was that when we had written testing in place, the individual had to take the state testing. The comment was made that the Board did have the authority to grant a variance on this. This will be on the October agenda for more discussion.

2. District 7 Training Counsel – John Shaffer

John Shaffer had a power point program that explained what equipment had been purchased, the books provided, the classes being put on now and registered for the future. This is all being provided to the firefighter free of charge through the district 7 training counsel. There are 96 fire departments in this district and they are all eligible to borrow the training props. We are the first counsel that has actually been elected. The other counsels were appointed, and we actually put out ballots and voted on who would sit on our counsel. The city of Terre Haute is one of our fixed site facilities for training. The grant for 2007 is \$120 thousand dollars and we have already set class times and dates. We have also purchased:

- * 3 prop trailers
- * 3 mobile prop trailers and 3 fixed trailers
- * Student manuals, DVD, instructor guides
- * 2 lap top computers and 1 projector

There was a discussion on the student roster. Due to the training being free, they are not able to have an accurate roster. So far, DHS has been able to accommodate the additional students, but is there some way that this can be handled? Darrick Scott stated that the firefighter was going to have to take responsibility here. If a class is posted, put a cut off date on it. It will then be the responsibility of the firefighter to sign up or lose the opportunity to test.

The chairman asked if anyone had anything else to discuss.

Joe Wainscott stated that DHS was working with Ivy Tech for computer based training. We are getting ready to start on the EMS side and then start on the fire side. The fee for this was going to be \$15.00 per student, and when you leave the facility you would have the test results in your hands. This is not a mandatory procedure. It is an alternative to a student having to wait for testing in his area. When he is ready, he can go to Ivy Tech and take the written test. We will let you know when this is ready, but I think it will be a good thing for a lot of firefighters.

The Fire Marshal would like the board to look at the affiliation portion of certification. We have students that are taking the course, testing, and are

of age. They are students. They then get out and want a job at a fire department, but the department wants them certified before they will hire them. The student is now in a loop. They have no way out of this. So, would the board please look at this and see if they can find a solution for it.

L. MEETING ADJOURNED

At 8 PM

NEXT MEETING

**OCTOBER 1, 2007
COLUMBUS CITY HALL, 6PM
123 WASHINGTON ST. MEETING HALL
COLUMBUS IN 47201**